



## Algeria takes historic step towards multi-party democracy

**ALGIERS** (Agencies) — Algeria has taken an historic step toward multi-party democracy, adopting a law that allows the creation of new political parties outside the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

The Law on Political Associations, passed by the National Assembly Sunday after weeks of often stormy debate, is the cornerstone of reforms launched by President Chadli Benjedid after bloody riots shook the country last October.

A separate electoral law due for adoption later this month will allow the new parties to compete in free elections for the first time since independence from France in 1962.

"We have entered a new phase in the history of our country," Interior Minister Abu Bakr Belkaid told the assembly after the vote.

"The democracy all of us want is that which... stems from political diversity and allows all sectors of this nation to express their options and participate effectively in running the affairs of the country."

The assembly also adopted a law on prices that significantly reduces the role of the state in the economy, part of parallel reforms designed to liberalise economic life and dismantle 27 years of state socialism.

Algerians approved a new constitution last February that charted the country's new political and economic course after riots broke out last year over worsening economic conditions.

A final vote tally was not immediately available but adoption of the two laws, the first to implement the new constitution, suggested a major victory for reformists in the FLN-dominated assembly over old guard elements that had resisted change.

Groups ranging from far-left Trotskyists to Islamic fundamentalists have already applied for legal status and officials say the first free elections will be held at the local level late this year or early next year.

The law forbids the creation of parties based exclusively on a particular religion, language, region, sex, race or profession. It also forbids parties from advocating violence, extremism or fanaticism.

Some deputies expressed concern these clauses would rule out Islamic fundamentalist parties. Belkaid said earlier this law

would not obstruct associations "inspired by Islamic values."

But he also condemned groups that might present themselves as the sole defenders of Islam, which he called "the heritage of all Algerians," and designated by the constitution as the state religion.

The law on prices replaces a cumbersome four-tier price system with a two-tier structure that maintains state controls on essential or strategic commodities and allows others to be determined by the market.

The result will be to expand the role of the market in an economy long dominated by the public sector but in which state industries have been granted increasing autonomy.

In a series of referendums in November, Algeria's 13 million voters repeatedly have backed sweeping political reforms proposed by Benjedid, elected to a third five-year term in December.

Algerian newspapers said 40 groups intended to form parties to challenge the FLN's political dominance of the country since it won independence from France in 1962.

The bill also forbids any party to be based on regional, linguistic, racial or religious grounds. Some deputies felt that article was aimed at Islamic fundamentalists or members of the Berber minority.

Among the groups ready to take advantage of the law are the Social Democratic Party, with a rapidly growing membership, the Democratic Union, and the Front

for Socialist Forces.

The Islamic Salvation Front and the Algerian Democratic Movement, led by Algeria's first president, Ahmad Ben Bella, exiled in Switzerland, are also getting together to form a platform for the first electoral test in municipal elections at the end of the year.

According to the text of the bill, groups wanting to form political parties can now apply to the Interior Ministry, which has two months to give a reply.

The new law forbids members of the military, policemen, magistrates or members of the constitutional council from belonging to political movements.

The state will contribute to each political party in proportion to its membership in parliament. All foreign material support for the parties is forbidden by the new law.

As FLN representatives debated the bill, several hundred people, many of them women, demonstrated peacefully in front of the parliament, calling for respect for women's rights and equality before the law.

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He said the election plan fell far short of PLO expectations.

He said it ignored the organisation and said nothing about self-determination for the Palestinian people or Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

"We can't go into a tunnel when we don't know what's at the other end. Is it open or is it dead end?" he said.

Asked what other options the PLO had, he said, "take for example the statement by the European Community (EC), it's excellent. It's good and it's positive, it contains fundamental changes ...

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said that Shamir was planning to meet Palestinians, including PLO sympathisers, to discuss his election plan.

At a summit in Madrid last week, the EC adopted a position on the Middle East close to that of the PLO and said for the first time that the PLO should take part in an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli dispute.

The other option, he said, was to keep up the intifada. "The Intifada is a very important element. It has a big effect on Israel every day."

He said the PLO had no objections to contacts between Israeli leaders and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza, provided these were not understood as negotiations.

"It's not out of the question that a member of the leadership should also be in the delegation."

The community can play a very important role by talking to the Americans, by talking to the Israelis, to convince them of the idea contained in their statement."

Khalaf said Palestinians had yet asked the PLO for clearance to take part in such meetings and he did not expect Shamir to invite them before a Likud party meeting on the elections plan Wednesday.

He said the PLO position was that any official delegation for talks with Israeli leaders should be from both inside and outside the territories. Arafat has named Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughud, two Palestinian Americans, as possible participants in such a team.

Residents of the town of 10,000 protested earlier in the week against arrests by gathering in the main church and singing protest songs.

There was no protest in Beit Sahour Sunday that might have prompted a curfew and the army said it was a pre-emptive move.

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They were expelled to Lebanon Thursday.

Israel has expelled 55 Palestinians since the start of the uprising in December 1987, prompting international condemnation spearheaded by the United Nations.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, a member of Rabin's Labour Party, criticised the hawkish defence minister for trying to speed up expulsions by changing legislation that holds up such action pending appeal.

"Where did the defence ministry find the genius who suggested deport first and hear the appeal afterwards?" Shahal asked in remarks to the Jerusalem Post newspaper.

Rabin also urged cabinet ministers to keep the army out of the political debate after Foreign Minister Moshe Arens was quoted as saying new West Bank commander Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai would fight the uprising better than outgoing Major-General Amram Mitza.

"The army must be kept outside the political fight. The army is a national asset that must be given the broadest backing certainly by the ministers of the government," he said.

Arens' office denied the foreign minister criticised Mitza and said in statement:

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## Delegates to children's congress start leaving

AMMAN (J.T.) — Delegations from 15 Arab countries who took part in the ninth children's congress began leaving here for home following a week-long visit as well as cultural and recreational programmes.

Among those leaving Monday were children's groups from Iraq, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Altogether, 60 boys and girls took part in the activities which included visits to tourist and archaeological sites, cultural events, visits to Jordanian families, recreational programmes, visits to the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea and a meeting with Her Majesty Queen Noor who sponsors the annual event through the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF).

Interviewed by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, shortly before departure the children and their supervisor voiced deep appreciation for the hospitality accorded to them during their stay in Jordan, and said that the visit immensely increased their knowledge about Arab culture.

Upon conclusion of the event Sunday, the children held a seminar attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal, at the end of which they issued a set of recommendations calling for more care and attention to children at schools and homes, underlining the importance of books and publications as the major source of knowledge for children and calling for a greater measure of interaction among the cultures of the Arab World.

The children called on Arab intellectuals and script-writers to produce more books for the benefit of children and urged to more cultural programmes to be organized for children in all Arab countries.

### NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**KING CONGRATULATES U.S.** His Majesty King Hussein has cabled U.S. President George Bush on the anniversary of America's National Day. In his cable, the King stressed the need to reinforce mutual friendship and cooperation. (Petra)

**ARMY TEAM LEAVES FOR PILGRIMAGE:** A pilgrimage mission representing the Jordanian Armed Forces left Amman Monday for Mecca and was seen off by senior army officers from the Armed Forces Headquarters. Before departure, the Armed Forces Muti spoke to the members of the mission on the pilgrimage rites in Mecca and Medina. (Petra)

**ASSAD RECEIVES TURKISH ENVOY:** Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nasseruddin Al Assad Monday received in his office Turkish Ambassador to Jordan Semih Belen at the conclusion of the envoy's tour of duty. During the meeting, they discussed means to bolster scientific and cultural cooperation and increasing the number of students accepted in the universities of both countries. (Petra)

**PSD TEAM DEPARTS FOR PILGRIMAGE:** A total of seventy seven people from the Public Security Department (PSD) Monday left Amman for Saudi Arabia to perform pilgrimage. They were seen off by PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Majali. (Petra)

**TWO DENTAL CLINICS IN MAFRAQ:** Minister of Health and Social Development Dr. Zahair Malhas has decided to open two dental clinics in Mafraq. The health department director in Mafraq Governorate, Dr. Suleiman Affash, said that these two clinics would be provided with the necessary medical personnel and equipment. (Petra)

**RAWABDEH RETURNS FROM MOROCCO:** Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh Monday returned home after participating in a panel discussion held in Casablanca, Morocco. (Petra)

**LOANS TO MAFRAQ FARMERS:** The Agricultural Credit Corporation in Mafraq donated loans amounting to JD 450,000 to 177 farmers during the first half of 1989. (Petra)

**ACC AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS TO MEET:** Jordan will take part in a meeting by Ministers of Agriculture in the four-member countries of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which is due to convene in Baghdad Thursday. According to an official statement in Baghdad, the four ministers will explore the prospect of increasing their countries' cooperation in agricultural fields, and planning joint future action. Several proposals will be listed in a final report on the ministers' work and their plans which is to be submitted to the ACC's higher council, due to convene in Sanaa, North Yemen, by the end of September. (Petra)

**BADRAN INSPECTS AGRICULTURAL STATION:** Agriculture minister Adnan Badran Monday inspected Al Hussein Agricultural Station and Al Faisal Agricultural Nursery which produce various types of fruit and forest tree saplings. The minister urged those in charge of the two centres to publish pamphlets to guide farmers on the type of plants and the method to plant the trees in different areas of Jordan. He said that the process should be conducted in a manner that would not serve as a rival for the private sector's business but rather to provide guidance.

**UNESCO OFFICIAL ARRIVES:** Dr. Farouk Hamdi Al Farra, from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) arrived in Amman Monday, for talks on educational innovation programmes which are being carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. During his four-day stay in Jordan, he will hold talks on general educational programmes with particular attention to an educational innovation programme, which will be carried out in the Karak area in southern Jordan in conjunction with and help from Mu'ta University. (Petra)

**AIR FRANCE TAKES PART IN FESTIVAL:** Air France, eager to help in the development of cultural relations between Jordan and France, has decided to participate in this year's Jerash Festival by carrying jointly with Royal Jordanian the troupe "Ballet Du Nord" between Amman and Paris. Indeed, 39 dancers will perform at the South Theatre on July 8 and 9, thus adding a touch of beauty to the sumptuous programme of the Festival for 1989. (J.T.)

**HOSPITAL GETS KIDNEY MACHINES:** The University of Jordan Hospital has received a computerized dialysis unit for the treatment of kidney patients presented by the Jordanian Garden and House Society as a gift to the hospital. Director of the Jordan Medical Institution, General Daoud Hananah, expressed his gratitude to the society for its donation of such an advanced device. He said that despite the high cost of the treatment of kidney patients, the Jordanian government treats them free of charge. (Petra)

**FRENCH PLANES UNDERGO TESTS HERE:** The Royal Jordanian's engineering and maintenance department has made the necessary checking and maintenance for four Airbus planes, belonging to Air France, in accordance with an agreement concluded between RJ and the French airline company. RJ Deputy Executive Director Husam Abu Ghazaleh said that according to the agreement, thorough examinations of all the planes' equipment take place every 15 months.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohammad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An exhibition of children's books held within the framework of the Ninth Arab Children's Congress at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* A photography exhibition entitled "Constructed Narratives" at the British Council.
- \* An exhibition of Palestinian heritage at the Professional Associations Complex.

### FILM

- \* A German film entitled "The Doctor of Stalingrad" (English subtitled) at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.



Nsour opens camp at Dibbin park

Education Minister Abdullah Nsour Monday opened a camp at Dibbin National Park, near Jerash, and addressed the 185 participants, urging them to carry out useful work and voluntary service for their community. The participants are all members of scout organisations from

different parts of the Kingdom who will spend a week in the camp, training in civil defence work, automechanics, electricity and other trades as well as doing scout duties. The minister underlined the scout movement's importance in developing the youth of Jordan (Petra)

## PSD destroys large drug haul

AMMAN (J.T.) — A large haul of drugs seized from smugglers in Jordan over the past few months was burnt Monday at the kilns of the Jordan Cement Factories Company under the supervision of the Public Security Department (PSD).

Major General Nasrullah Muhiuddin, PSD assistant director said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the haul was made up of 1,348 kilograms of hashish, nine kilograms of heroin, 26 kilograms of opium, 51,658 capsules, 207 cannabis plants.

He said that the drugs were seized in a total of 99 drug trafficking cases and had a street value of JD 2 million.

Muhiuddin said that the drug trafficking cases in the first half of 1989 reached an unprecedented level but did not disclose any figures.

Muhiuddin said that most of the drugs were destined to other Arab countries which normally consume them and that Jordan has a relatively low number of drug addicts.

The Kingdom's central geographical location between drug producing and drug consuming countries makes it prone to drug smuggling operations, Muhiuddin said.

But he added that the PSD has been very active foiling most of the smugglers attempts at trafficking and peddling the illicit products.

Last month the PSD announced that a haul of hashish with a street value estimated at JD 300,000 was seized by the police and customs authorities as it was being smuggled into Jordan from Syria in March this year.

The PSD said that 232 kilograms of hashish were found hidden inside a lorry that arrived at the border town of Ramtha from Syria in March this year.

The PSD announced that it had broken the biggest drug smuggling operations in Jordan's history, seizing two and a half tonnes of hashish, 300,000 capsules, 207 cannabis plants altogether worth JD 2 million.

Hiyasat also briefed the North Yemeni official on progress in the production of hashish, 300,000 capsules, 207 cannabis plants altogether worth JD 2 million.

## Aqaba Labour Department offers 112 jobs to unemployed Jordanians

AQABA (Petra) — Aqaba Labour Department last month offered 112 jobs to unemployed Jordanians living in the Aqaba area, according to department Director Jamal Abu Tayeh. He said that the jobs were in dif-

ferent industrial and trade fields. Abu Tayeh said the Vocational Training Corporation is helping in the process of finding jobs to the unemployed by offering them training courses as drivers so that they can replace non-Jordanians in the transport sector.

## Delegates for 5th expatriate conference begin arriving

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates who will take part in the Fifth Jordanian Expatriates Conference began converging on Amman; and according to sources at the Ministry of Labour, which is organising the meeting, some 1,000 delegates will attend the four-day meeting.

Mr. Azmi Al Muhtaseb, director of the ministry's Expatriates Affairs Department said that the conference to be held under Royal patronage will be attended

by representatives of various types of expatriates groups from different countries.

This year's participants, Muhtaseb noted, is nearly double the number of last year.

One of the major topics for discussion is the establishment of a private university in Jordan to serve the expatriates and their children, according to Ministry of Labour officials.

They were quoted by Sawt Al Shaab daily Monday as saying

that the private university, to be known as the University of Applied Sciences, will open its doors in the coming year.

The projected university's capital is JD 10 million of which JD 6 million has already been paid up, the report said.

It said that the process of registering the university with the Ministry of Industry and Trade as a share-holding company has already started.

## Red Crescent society to organise international youth camp in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) will organise its first international youth camp in Jordan Thursday and according to an official statement Monday participants from 12 Arab and foreign countries are expected to take part in the camp's activities.

The statement said that the 75 participants aged between 15 and 17 years will hold seminars, panel discussions, and hear lectures on the work and operations of the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies around the world.

The participants, the statement noted, will have the chance to exchange views and hold open discussions on various activities carried out by the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies.

Taking part in the camp to be opened by Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour at Allan, north west of Amman — are delegates from Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Turkey, Bulgaria, West Germany and Sweden in addition to Jordan.



UNFPA expert visits Yarmouk

IRBID (J.T.) — Dr. Majid Khan, an expert working for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) called at Yarmouk University Monday and had a meeting with its president, Dr. Mohammad Hamdan who

briefed him on the University's projects and development. Khan briefed Hamdan on the fund's activities and learnt from university deans about a people's communication project which is being implemented in cooperation with the fund and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The project entails visits by university students to various rural areas in the Irbid Governorate.

## Sanaa seeks to acquire Jordanian expertise in housing — N. Yemeni aide

AMMAN (J.T.) — North Yemen hopes to acquire Jordanian expertise in housing operations and is interested in promoting bilateral cooperation in construction, North Yemeni Ministry of Municipalities and Housing Under Secretary Mohammad Al Ashwal said in a statement here Monday.

Speaking at a meeting with Yousef Hiyasat, director of the Housing Corporation, Ashwal said that North Yemen will open all channels for bilateral cooperation with Jordan in the construction of housing units and similar projects.

Hiyasat briefed Ashwal on the corporation's plans to build units at a minimum cost using locally produced materials for the benefit of low income groups.

He said that Jordan gives due attention to housing schemes providing essential services to all its housing estates.

Under a national housing strategy, which was recently approved by the government here, the housing corporation plans to set up units around the Amman, Hiyasat noted.

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ay 1989 under the co-chairmanship of the prime ministers of the two countries, resulted in a wide ranging agreement on bilateral cooperation.

Among other things, the two sides decided to exchange legislations on construction work and engineering publications dealing with public works and transport, and qualifications of engineers as well as consultancy firms.

North Yemen agreed to give Jordanian contractors favourable treatment in tenders for projects in North Yemen and to allow Jordanian engineers and contractors associations to open offices in Sanaa to study potential schemes.

The last meeting held in Janu-

## N. Yemeni team visits teachers training college

AMMAN (Petra) — An educational team from North Yemen Monday visited the advanced teachers training college in Amman and was briefed on its development and courses.

The college was created by the Ministry of Higher Education to upgrade the qualifications and improve the skills of Jordanian teachers.

Another North Yemeni team, representing the Ministry of Municipalities and Housing had a meeting with the deputy mayor of Amman Sultan Khleifat. Cooperation in municipal and construction services between Sanaa and Amman was discussed at the meeting. Khleifat briefed the guests on the Greater Amman Municipality's expansion projects and various services.

## RSS, bank sign accord to study economic situation in Madaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Cities and Villages Development Bank's Regional Development Fund (RDF) have signed an agreement according to which the RSS will conduct a seven-month study of the economic and social situation in Madaba district while the RDF will finance the study.

This study is designed to look into the available capabilities in the field of investment and particularly investment in small and medium-size productive projects. Acting director of the RSS Economic Research Centre, Dr. Ahmad Qasem, said.

This study will involve office and field works. Data available at

concerned ministries and institutions will be collected concerning economic, social, health, educational, and other services in the district.

Furthermore, the necessary statistics regarding the number of schools, teachers, health centres and other facilities will also be collected.

The opening date, Wednesday July 5, is expected to be marked with a special ceremony to be held under royal patronage.



Seminar on the archaeology of the Ancient Greco-Roman city of Jerash is held Monday at the University of Jordan.

## New software product unveiled in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American computer company Management Science of America (MSA) Monday launched the Brightview product range, a new software technology aimed at making mainframe computers "more friendly."

Information technology is very much a competitive weapon today. It's a cost cutting approach that enables management to define strategies, to measure their success, to implement their strategies, to set targets in terms of projects and to monitor them.

"Brightview is the logical development of what's been going on in the (computer) market," said Mike Duff the director of local partner programme of MSA.

Duff was in Jordan for a four-day conference Monday that brought together the MSA partners from Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Jordan to discuss the applicability of Brightview in the Middle East.

MSA, which is based in Atlanta, Georgia, operates in 61 countries worldwide.

According to Duff, this new development in software combines the simplicity of using a personal computer and the sophis-

ticatedness of a complex main terminal computer.

The English version of Brightview was launched in April this year after six months and six million dollars in research. In January of this year, MSA started research with a dual language computer company on "Arabising" Brightview, and according to Duff the result of such research should crystallise "in the not so

far distance."

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

Published twice weekly on Sunday and Wednesday

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## Hiking for trouble

ISRAELI hikers, with or without military escort, are roaming the West Bank and Gaza Strip these days to provoke the Palestinians and escalate the already overcharged tension existing in the area. To choose these trying times, when the Palestinians are waging their intifada and the international community is busy searching for a mutually acceptable formula to end the Palestinian conflict is utterly irresponsible. How can Israeli leaders speak of free and democratic elections in these very territories, ostensibly to allow the people there to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, when they orchestrate such provocative hikes right in the heart of the occupied Arab territories? How else can the Palestinians interpret such hostile actions of the Israeli government, as well as from the militant and extremist Israelis, except as a direct effort to breach all sensible attempts to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and abort even the election idea proposed by Prime Minister Shamir himself? If the ultra-right Israelis wish to stake a claim to all of Palestine and preempt even the results of the election scheme, why would the Israeli government, the champion of this election idea, act as an accomplice to these hostile forces within Israel by facilitating the execution of their antagonistic hikes across the West Bank? This state of affairs leads us to the inevitable conclusion that the Israeli establishment has never been sincere about its election ploy and that by allowing extremists to zigzag the occupied Arab territories with complete knowledge of their views and dreams, it has shown its true colour for all to see.

Surely Israel knows that such challenges as posed by the Israeli hikers will make the Palestinians all the more determined to continue their uprising until Israeli extremism is uprooted from its source. If Israel's bullets and all these shades of oppression have failed to thwart the Palestinian will to wage their relentless struggle to regain their political rights, a few hundred Israeli hikers will not either. On the contrary, the hikers will only succeed in exacerbating further the tension unhappily existing between the Palestinians and the Israelis and undermine the opportunities for peace between them.



### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Monday commended the Central Bank of Jordan for its recent measures designed to stabilise the national currency and replenish the country's foreign exchange reserves. But it said, that what Jordan needs more at the moment is self-confidence and determination to foil what it called the black hands that try to cause harm to the Kingdom and its stability. It said that those elements working in the dark and trying to harm the national economy are very few; and there was need for national unity and an all out determination to abort such evil schemes. The paper said that the economic crisis facing Jordan at the moment has come about gradually; and it is only natural to believe that through gradual but firm steps can we overcome the negative effects and tidy the country over its present difficulties. It is natural for Jordan under the present circumstances and given the current economic and political developments in the Middle East region to be facing a hard time, the paper noted. But, it said, that five given time, patience, perseverance and hard work, the Jordanian people can deal successfully with the situation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily dwells in his Monday column on Israel's recent deportation of a group of eight Palestinians charged with committing resistance activity against the occupation forces. Ibrahim Sakka says that the Israeli action was condemned by the Arabs and the whole international community, and the question is being debated at the United Nations Security Council later Monday. One cannot predict the outcome of the coming debate and can only wonder about Washington's position this time in the light of continued U.S. support for the Jewish State, the writer notes. He says whether the council condemns or fails to condemn the atrocities of the Israeli government there is no chance at all for the eight Palestinians to return to their homeland; and whether the council supports the Palestinian people's struggle or not, there is no hope for stopping the Israeli inhuman actions, the demolition of homes and the killing of the innocent women and children. Sakka refers to previous council resolutions which did nothing to put an end to the Israeli arbitrary actions and notes that with the power of veto, Washington is bound to continue its encouragement of the Jewish state to pursue its repressive actions.

Saw Al Saab daily focused its attention Monday on the situation in Lebanon where the shelling of residential areas has been stepped up despite ongoing mediation efforts to end the ordeal of the Lebanese people. The paper referred to a visit Monday to Damascus by the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria in a fresh bid to find a formula for an end to the bloodshed. It said that on the eve of the visit, Iraq announced loud and clear that it supports the Arab League's mediation efforts and will provide all possible facilities to make the three ministers' mission a success. But the paper added that Iraq's contribution is not enough, and noted that cooperation on the part of Syria and the other parties in Lebanon itself is urgently required. The paper said that the civil war in Lebanon that has been smoldering for the past 15 years cannot be ended overnight; and in addition to the Arab League's endeavours, individual Arab countries' cooperation and influence is needed to attain fruitful results.

## Weekly Political Pulse

# Call Shamir's bluff

WHILE the extremists in the Likud camp are crying wolf at the thought of allowing the Palestinians to elect their own representatives and see in it a potentially fatal blow to their determination to hold on to Arab lands, Shamir is counting on Arab Palestinian rejection of the election scheme to confirm his instinct that the final stage for Palestinian determination of their future will never materialise. At the same time, what better public relations gimmick for Israel to fool the international community than to raise high the placard calling for free and democratic elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip? After all, who can quarrel with an offer to give the Palestinians an opportunity to freely chose their representatives? That explains in part why the international community has, by and large, voiced support for the idea — provided the elections in question meet certain fundamental conditions, including holding them in a truly free and democratic manner and away from the duress of Israeli occupation. Other caveats, added by the Arab side, include assurances that any such elections can be translated into the establishment of an indepen-

dent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Yet, Shamir is gambling that his seemingly "attractive plan" will never get to the stage where it could pose a threat to Israel's established policy to keep physical control over Arab territories. One can almost see Shamir walking at Sharon and his clique, reassuring them that there is little to worry about, that the master plan is always in safe hands. It appears that such implicit promises are not sufficient for Sharon and like-minded Israelis, who insist on iron clad guarantees that the whole exercise will come to naught.

Under these circumstances, would it not be more prudent of the Palestinian side to call Shamir's bluff and accept the challenge of negotiating the terms and conditions of the proposed election rather than to reject them outright? This may not be a popular choice, but it certainly would be a smart move.

If the Palestinian side would accept the idea of elections in principle and offer to negotiate the circumstances that would make such elections truly free and democratic, it would enjoy wide

international support and understanding. By insisting that Israel heed the results of the elections, including the projected decision to establish a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestinian side stands to gain support and appreciation as well. For no true backer of free and democratic elections in the occupied Arab territories would seek to deny the voting Palestinians the outcome of the expression of their right to self-determination in its widest and fullest dimensions.

To be sure, and as of now, Israel is in no mood to allow the process of elections to come to fruition. Shamir is betting on the Palestinian side to save him from the consequences of his gambit. One can be sure that the Likud people in the Israeli government have many surprises up their sleeves designed to sabotage the voting process in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — should worse come to worse and the Palestinians take up the Shamir challenge at face value and accept the vote proposal. But, since the whole exercise appears to be a publicity stunt, why not win it for the side of the Arabs by taking Shamir to task and playing his game?

## Bush aims to encourage new trends in Poland, Hungary

By Barry Schwid  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George Bush aims to encourage positive trends in Eastern Europe and score another foreign policy success when he visits the region this month.

Poland and Hungary, members of the Warsaw Pact military alliance, are undertaking political and economic reforms, and the president wants to lend some support when he visits the countries July 9-13.

Like most American conservatives, Bush sees a free market economy and political freedoms developing in tandem. There are signs that is occurring on a limited scale in both Communist countries.

Bush will take with him a package of incentives, carefully tied to

good management in Warsaw and Budapest. Then at a July 14-16 summit meeting in Paris with the leaders of six other industrial democracies, Bush will urge others to provide backing.

The risk is that Bush might upset the Soviets. But Mikhail Gorbachev has acknowledged his own economy needs an overhaul, and he's offering the Soviet people a heady mixture of glasnost, openness, and perestroika, or restructuring.

Bush advised the Soviet leader at a recent news conference not to "uptight" (irritated) about his trip to Eastern Europe. Treading carefully, the president said he would not exhort the Poles or the Hungarians into actions that could provoke repression.

Considering Gorbachev's own programme at home, and the

enormous cost to the Soviets of subsidising East European economies, the president is likely to succeed in his efforts to stimulate democracy.

Soviet tanks rolled into Hungary in 1956 and into Czechoslovakia in 1968 to suppress reform movements. Those movements did not have Moscow's support.

This time around, Hungary and Poland have not stepped over the line by threatening to evolve out of the Soviet orbit.

Bush described his immediate objectives this way: "I want to see a much more open Europe. And I think that the importance of the visit is along that line. It's not going to be that we're going to solve the problem of the Hungarian economy or the Polish economy."

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, in

Washington, is optimistic about prospects for economic changes in Eastern Europe and wants the White House to promote the trend.

Burton Yale Pines, the director of research, said Bush's trip could produce the first U.S. policy for Eastern Europe since World War II.

"The United States has never had a policy toward Eastern Europe," Pines said. "We've had ad hoc responses."

Earlier trips to the region by presidents Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter were designed "to tweak" Moscow, Pines asserted. Now the circumstances are different.

Moscow is rethinking its role in the region, and Bush will visit at a time of enormous political, economic and cultural change. Gor-

bachev has offered to withdraw some troops and tanks from the East. The NATO-Warsaw Pact negotiations in Vienna could produce a wholesale reduction in forces.

"If Soviet troops really pull out you are giving a green light to reform," Pines said.

Kim R. Holmes, director of foreign policy research at the Heritage Foundation, stressed the economic burden the East Europeans are to Moscow's own sagging economy.

"Eastern Europe is an economic basket case, plagued with low productivity, low motivation, an increasingly obsolete industrial base, an ecological crisis and a debt to the West of over \$1 billion," he said.

According to Holmes, the Soviets spent at least \$21 billion a year for trade subsidies and credits, and economic and military aid — beyond what it costs Moscow to maintain its half-million

## LETTERS

### Undisciplined desires

To the Editor:

that person inhales 400 milligrams of nicotine a week. That much in a single dose would kill that person instantly.

Our legislative assembly ought to legislate against the driving of any type of vehicle on our roads by heavy smokers and drug addicts. As regards light smokers, they should be prohibited from driving school buses.

The chain-smoker suffers from chronic tired feeling or fatigue. Therefore, if it is not enough to prohibit smoking in public places and on public conveyances. Smokers should not be allowed to endanger the lives of innocent citizens by driving their vehicles negligently or recklessly. Every driver should be subjected to a rigorous and comprehensive medical examination before a driving licence is issued to him if we are to reduce the increasing number of accidents and traffic offences.

As parents and teachers, God will hold us responsible if we fail to discipline the natural and unnatural desires of our children. If we are to live abundantly, and if we are aiming at building a healthy, energetic, and vigorous society, then the first step to take is to discipline our bodily desires, and those of our children.

George N. Saig  
Amman

## U.S. Senate's foreign relations panel stalemates

By Lawrence L. Knutson  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate committee on foreign relations, once considered a summit of U.S. legislative prestige and power, appeared mired in conflict among its members.

In recent weeks, the committee has floundered through political disputes over several controversial ambassadorial appointments.

Donald Gregg, the nominee to be ambassador to South Korea, was the target of a Democratic probe into allegations that he used a former position as national security adviser to Vice President Bush to help the illegal resupply of the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Failure to make progress on the bill put into question the fate of the two-year, \$23 billion spending authorisation, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on June 29. Both the Senate and the House must adopt identical versions of the same bill for it to become law.

The House bill was whipped into shape by Dante Fascell, the grizzled chairman of the foreign affairs committee. Displaying the bite, bark and manner of a drill sergeant, the congresswoman from Florida pushed the measure through.

However, Fascell's counterpart in the Senate, chairman Claiborne Pell, has been virtually the only committee member to attend meetings on the aid bill.

There is, he declared wryly, "a profound lack of interest in this bill."

Then there were holdups over several controversial ambassadorial appointments by U.S. President George Bush which required the panel's approval.

Donald Gregg, the nominee to be ambassador to South Korea, was the target of a Democratic probe into allegations that he used a former position as national security adviser to Vice President Bush to help the illegal resupply of the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Sea. Mitch McConnell called off the boycott after Sen. Alan Cranston, a Democrat, agreed to let the Gregg nomination go to a vote on June 20.

A tug of war has also broken out over two competing spending priorities: The construction in Israel of two expensive broadcasting transmitters for the Voice

of America and the payment of millions of dollars of past-due payments to the United Nations, a course favoured by Pell.

The panel decided that the transmitters should be funded but that the money should not be taken out of the U.N. account as Sen. Jesse Helms demanded. No one said where the money would come from in a foreign affairs account that is already nearly \$800 million over budget ceilings.

The committee then tried to return to the larger and more potentially controversial foreign aid bill, again.

But once again, no quorum could be mustered.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

Gregg denied the charge and the opposition Republican Party members on the committee organised a boycott of the panel's meetings believing that Democrats were trying to fan the fading members of the Iran-contra affair and sink the Gregg nomination.

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of America and the payment of millions of dollars of past-due payments to the United Nations, a course favoured by Pell.

Pell, aided by his fellow Democrats, has managed to hold firm with unaccustomed ease through the Congress, a consensus was won on controversial sanctions against white-ruled South Africa, and Lugar helped change U.S. policy toward dictatorial rule in the Philippines.

During the Lugar years, foreign aid legislation marched with unaccustomed ease through the Congress, a consensus was won on controversial sanctions against white-ruled South Africa, and Lugar helped change U.S. policy toward dictatorial rule in the Philippines.

But that was a brighter-than-usual period in the committee's long decline.

The committee, many of its critics say, has seen brighter days.

The names of such postwar chairmen as Arthur Vandenberg, J. William Fulbright and Frank Church have been central to the shaping of American foreign policy.

The committee's influence has been slipping since Fulbright's chairmanship in the early 1970s with the exception of a brief renaissance when Sen. Richard Lugar headed the panel for two years beginning in 1985.

During the Lugar years, foreign aid legislation marched with unaccustomed ease through the Congress, a consensus was won on controversial sanctions against white-ruled South Africa, and Lugar helped change U.S. policy toward dictatorial rule in the Philippines.

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## Producers battle for rain forest hero tale

By Nina J. Easton

**L**LYWOOD — In a village in the South American rain forest, where trees tower over wooden houses and shabby fronts to form a leafy canopy, a group of Brazilian environmentalists will meet soon to determine the fate of one of the most待定 film projects in recent Hollywood history.

The Brazilians who gather in Iuri, a village near the western edge of Brazil, hold the rights to the story of Chico Mendes, a santo who captured the world's attention with his attempts to save Brazil's rain forests from being destroyed.

In the six months since Mendes gunned down in his back yard allegedly by local ranching rebels, his story has been sued by such entertainment重量级人物 as Robert Redford, Steven Spielberg, David Putman and Ted Turner.

Producers and directors have flocked to Rio Branco, a frontier town that requires a seven-hour flight with three stopovers from de Janeiro, to lobby Mendes' widow and his followers. They have flown in Portuguese and English versions of their movies, have offered to pay for worldwide TV commercials to promote preservation of the rain forest. And, one by one, they have dangled hundreds of thousands of dollars in front of Mendes' family and the foundation that bears his name.

We've all seen bidding wars

on scripts," said leading artist agent Robert L. Stein. "But in 21 years in the business I can't recall the kind of intimacy that has taken place on this one. The players are international players. It's competition on a global level."

Two of Stein's clients are on Putman's team: Chris Menges, a former cinematographer (*The Killing Fields*) who made his directing debut last year with the anti-apartheid film *A World Apart*, and the respected documentary maker Adrian Cowell, who was doing a film on Mendes when he was murdered.

Warner Bros., under its production agreement with Putman's Enigma Productions Company, is backing this group.

Putman's principal competitors are: — Robert Redford, who has drafted Brazilian actress Sonia Braga (whom he directed in *The Milagro Beanfield War*) to smooth the way with the local population. Redford has proposed doing two projects: a feature that would be financed by 20th Century Fox and directed by Steven Spielberg, and a second project through his own production company.

— Cable TV mogul Ted Turner, who is already producing a documentary on Mendes' death or air on his cable superstation TBS in October. Turner is now seeking rights for a made-for-TV movie.

— The British film distributor Goldcrest Co., which has promised that Costa-Gavras (*Missing, Betrayed*) would direct its film — Jon Peters and Peter Guber.



Chico Mendes

who have produced such films as *Batman*, the box-office hit *Rainman*, and *Gorillas in the Mist* about anthropologist Dian Fossey.

— J.N. Filmes, a Brazilian company whose principal partner is the son of the late Nelson Rodrigues, one of the country's most celebrated playwrights. J.N. Filmes has made four feature films since 1982.

The race for the rights to

Mendes' story appeared to end, if only momentarily, June 7 when J.N. Filmes hosted a press conference in Rio de Janeiro to announce that it had acquired the rights to Mendes' story from his young widow, Izamar. But the announcement merely raised the ante in the competition.

"Izamar Mendes had signed this agreement with J.N. Filmes without authorization," argued

Alan U. Schwartz, a Los Angeles attorney retained by the Chico Mendes Foundation in April to broker the influx of movie proposals. Schwartz's view is shared by other leaders of the foundation, which is administering the rights to Mendes' story and holds the key to cooperation from friends, family and followers.

The film makers pursuing Mendes' story appear to have stumbled onto a power struggle

within the political movement that Mendes left when he died.

"Quite frankly, it's not simply a matter of these deals," Schwartz said. "It's also a matter of where the authority of the movement should lie."

Mendes' widow is president of the foundation's board, but she sits on the board with representatives of six different union, environmental and Indian organizations, each of which has a voice in the direction of the movement. Izamar's agreement with J.N. Filmes surprised many of those representatives.

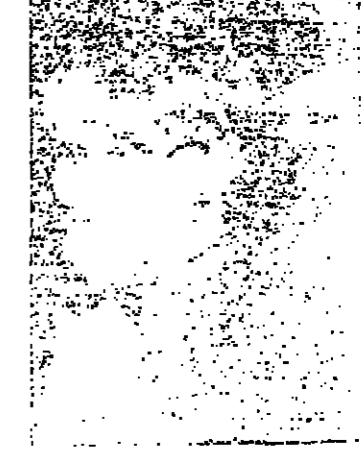
In a phone interview Jofre Rodrigues, the main partner in J.N. Filmes, insisted that his agreement with Mendes' widow is "binding." He added, "We made a perfect contract, so perfect that it is irreversible."

Rodrigues said that his company has already made payments to Izamar Mendes, as well as Mendes' first wife and daughter. And J.N. Filmes had signed up the successful Brazilian novelist Marcio Souza to write a screenplay for the movie.

The foundation's leaders were scheduled to meet in Xapuri this week to discuss whether to ratify the J.N. Filmes deal, to dismiss it in favour of another proposal, or, in the most likely scenario, to appoint a major Hollywood film maker as a partner with J.N.

It is not just Mendes' life that has generated so much interest in Hollywood; it is also his status as a hero, and now martyr, of the environmental movement.

Robert Redford



Steven Spielberg

visited Rio Branco to present the Turner proposal for a TV movie, said that the locals seemed unimpressed by the attention that Hollywood was lavishing upon them.

"A lot of fancy names were being thrown around," he said. "But it's not like they are around reading the Hollywood reports ... While they were certainly interested in our concerns, it appeared that one of their greater concerns was whether the message of the film would be helpful to his goals and his life."

So bolstered was the Mendes foundation by film makers that April Schwartz was able to rally American environmentalists to gather at the film festival and make a recommendation.

Schwartz, who in the past has worked for such human rights dissidents as Nelson Mandela, agreed to take the case to a pro bono basis. She and her collected fund raisers will now make his trip to the Brazilian forest.

Thomas Belford, an executive from Turner Broadcasting who

animal species in a particular habitat.

The giant Englewood prime example of this work. Fewer than 100 birds are left in the wild, the ICBP is trying to prevent further losses. It is working by preserving the last habitat, by saving a bird of this size, the Philippines eagle, and many other species of birds and fauna will be saved too.

The spectre of extinction is no respecter of national boundaries or of national symbols.

Lion feature

## 1,000 bird species threatened

A RECENT decision by the environment ministers of the 12 European Community countries to ban the import of raw and fashioned ivory is undoubtedly good news for the endangered African elephant, but the threat of extinction still looms large over thousands of other species of animals and birds, as rainforests diminish, pollution remains a major problem, and more land is cultivated in an effort to feed an increasingly populous world.

At least 1,000 of the earth's 9,000 species of bird are at risk of disappearing from the skies. For

about half of these the threat is immediate. For some, rescue may already be too late.

The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) has compiled a list of endangered birds, but resources available for rescue and conservation are thinly spread. The ICBP regards birds as a sensitive indicator of the state of the global environment, enabling the organization to target priority areas. Threatened birds are the immediate beneficiaries of the ICBP, but its conservation work extends automatically to plants and other

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## The Romanesque adventure of the monks

By Pascale Teinac

RIS — La Pierre-qui-Vire, in heart of Romanesque Burgundy, is an abbey unlike any other. Nearly forty years ago, a small community of Benedictine monks (distant descendants of monks who copied or illuminated manuscripts in the Middle Ages) started on an extraordinary venture called "Zodiaque".

All lovers of Romanesque art and they are more and more numerous today) know the Zodiaque publishing label which covers an anthology (unique in the world) of the splendors of Romanesque Europe: architecture, sculpture and painting) from the tiniest chapels in land or Italy to the most sumptuous cathedrals in France or England, and including frescoes in Catalonia. But it is still monks who gleefully with modern techniques of typography, printing, composition, reproduction, and into the gain, the financial difficulties any publishing house.

The Zodiaque adventure began in 1980, when three young monks in the Abbey of La Pierre-qui-Vire (including the present director of Zodiaque, Dom Angelino Surchamp, himself an abstract painter and a student of Albert Renger-Patzsch) were asked to paint the scenes for the abbey's chapel.

It was at the period when, after years of war and occupation,

Romanesque basilica of Vézelay, close to La Pierre-qui-Vire, was once more beginning to draw crowds of visitors. It was the time when religious art and modern art were beginning to be acquainted and when great contemporary artists such as Picasso, Chagall and Cocteau were starting to decorate places of worship.

The three painter-monks then had the idea of putting on exhibition

an extent that Father Angelino Surchamp thought it useful to give visitors who were shocked by what they saw, the text of a brief "Note on Abstract Art" which he had written for the Abbey's magazine. Strangely enough, this text, which was printed by a friend, became Zodiaque's first pamphlet, the second being devoted to the "Agony of Religious Art".

It was only in the third pamphlet, dealing with Autun Cathedral which had just found the Christ's head from its famous spandrel, that Romanesque art, which was going to establish the reputation of the Zodiaque editions, made its appearance.

Then other Romanesque pamphlets followed, on Burgundy, Tournus, Vézelay, etc, printed at the Abbey on equipment bought second-hand in 1980. The monks played a real financial balancing act, at that time, paying for the production of past issues with money from readers' subscriptions for future issues. It was the bookseller in Tournus who had the idea of putting all the pamphlets devoted to these Romanesque buildings in a single illustrated and bound volume.

Thus "Bourgogne Romanée" was born. It was the first volume of a collection which, today, numbers over 150 titles covering Romanesque or pre-Romanesque art in France (35 volumes), in Spain (10 volumes), Italy (8 volumes), Ireland, Scandinavia, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Portugal and even the Holy Land. Books on Belgium and Germany have been announced.

Zodiaque has also published sumptuous books on Saint Benedict, patron of the Benedictines, on monastic Europe, Muslim Europe, the Lombards, Charlemagne and the rock churches of Ethiopia, as well as more general works such as the Glossary of Technical Terms in Romanesque Art and the Lexicon of Symbols and Studies on Romanesque cloisters, crypts, Virgins and Christ.

biggest and best workshops in France. The photographic reproduction, using the photogravure process to which Zodiaque is very attached, is done at a printer's in the Vosges, one of the rare printing works in France which still uses this process which is far

more expensive than typography or offset but which gives magnificient results.

The success of these books keeps on growing. It is enough to make the monks of La Pierre-qui-Vire blush with pride — French features

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Aljodah

## Jordanian-Syrian committee opens talks in Damascus

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Syrian committee grouping ministers and senior officials Monday embarked on a two-day meeting here to pave the way for a joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meeting scheduled to start Sunday.

Industry and Trade Minister Ziyad Innab and his Syrian counterpart Antoine Jubran are heading the two teams for talks that cover a wide range of subjects including trade, industry, tourism, information and agriculture in addition to joint progress in the work of joint companies in land and maritime transport, energy and electricity.

In its first meeting, the committee reviewed the implementation of resolutions taken by the Higher Committee during its meeting in Amman last February and expressed satisfaction with the progress of work in various fields.

Upon his arrival in Damascus Sunday evening, Innab said that the committee will prepare a comprehensive report on its work and proposed recommendations on future plans to the Higher Committee which is co-chaired by the Syrian and Jordanian prime ministers.

The Higher Committee, which met in Amman in February, decided on a 12 point programme to promote cooperation between the two countries ranging from electricity and trade to agriculture and pharmaceuticals.

In their drive to promote bi-

lateral cooperation, the two sides last month signed an executive programme for the implementation of a 1987 agreement on tourism, and agreed to study the prospect of setting up a joint company for investments and hotel management.

Jordan and Syria jointly operate the white cement industry, a pesticide plant and carpeting industry as well as a land transport company and a free zone from electricity and trade to agriculture and pharmaceuticals.

The Jordanian side to the current committee talks in Damascus included Ministry of Industry and



Ziyad Innab

Trade Secretary-General Mohammad Saggaf, Jordan's ambassador to Syria Navef Al Hadid and Hassan Al Samman from the Central Bank of Jordan.

## Gorbachev, Ligachev differ on agricultural strategy

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his agriculture chief Yegor Ligachev differed sharply at the weekend over how to solve growing food shortages — one of the most serious economic problems facing the Soviet Union.

While Gorbachev urged support for private land-leasing to boost output, Ligachev, long-regarded as a standard bearer for conservatism in the ruling Politburo, reiterated his commitment to the state and collective farm methods.

"We have now formed a general policy — to give people the

chance to concentrate on private plots," Gorbachev told a Moscow meeting attended by senior Communist Party and government officials and farm experts.

"Now we must put this info practice."

He said the full potential of the land could only be achieved through such policies, but accused some rural officials of showing reluctance to adopt new methods.

"They are frightened... by anything that makes them take responsibility," Gorbachev said.

Agricultural problems have reached a point of near crisis, with shortages of staple goods all over the country and widespread rationing.

Much of the problem lies in poor storage and distribution. Soviet experts say up to a third of all produce grown in state farms rots before it reaches the consumer.

The official news agency TASS, reporting both speeches in full, quoted Ligachev as saying he still believed in the collective farm system as the backbone of Soviet agriculture.

"It's no secret that the country is suffering from widespread shortages... some predict famine in a couple of years and say that the only way to avoid it is to do away with the state and collective farms, to hand out the land to the peasants, to denationalise the land and all means of production."

"But it turns out that the huge majority of peasants don't actually want to take the land and leave the collective and state farms," he said.

The party leadership has sought to pay down differences between Gorbachev and Ligachev, but their previous speeches on agriculture have revealed markedly divergent views.

## Panel recommends drastic reflow of funds to developing countries



Helmut Schmidt

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Industrialised nations should drastically increase aid to Third World economies to help them overcome staggering debt burdens, said a report released Monday.

The report also said the United States can play a key role in solving the \$1.3 trillion Third World debt problem by reducing its massive fiscal and current account deficits.

The recommendations were made in a report prepared by former West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt and a group of independent experts formed in 1988 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

The panel said that in the last five years, developing countries have suffered from a reverse flow of funds, meaning that more capital has left those countries than has come in.

The net flow of investment from industrialised countries to developing countries dropped to \$10 billion in 1986 from \$20 billion in 1982, the report said.

To counter this trend, the report says "sizeable amounts of official development assistance (ODA) are urgently needed" to

start and support the self-sustaining economic growth essential to developing countries' efforts to free themselves from the debt crisis.

The Schmidt plan calls for doubling ODA loans provided by industrialised countries in the next five years. It also suggests study of a "mechanisms of automaticity" that would gradually let each donor country's ODA loans increase as a percentage of gross national product.

The Schmidt panel specifically focuses on the plight of the poorest debtor nations, mostly located in sub-Saharan Africa. For these countries, it recommends the establishment by the industrialised nations of a \$1 billion endowment fund that would be administered by the African Development Bank.

The fund would be used to develop national professional, technological and managerial leadership pools.

The group said a recent novel

debt approach by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, which calls for voluntary debt reduction programmes by commercial bank leaders, can probably only succeed in close cooperation with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The Schmidt panel urged the two international lending institutions to set up a new facility funded by voluntary contributions from the industrialised countries.

Commercial banks that don't want to reduce debt owed to them and don't want to provide fresh money to developing countries should be asked to accept repayment of part of the interest due to them in local currencies, the report says.

The panel stresses that U.S. budget and trade imbalances should be asked to accept repayment of part of the interest due to them in local currencies, the report says.

The group expressed hope that a normalisation of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union would lead to lower Worldwide military expenditures, which could free up funds for "productive purposes."

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## Sports broadcasting booms

**3U wins Olympics after losing Wimbledon**

ASSOLO, Cyprus (AP) — European Broadcasting Union secured the television rights to the next Olympic Games, after major sporting events lost rights to the wimbledon tennis championship to a editor, president Albert ff said Sunday.

reported as the 40-member ended its two-day annual that the union has ac rights for the 1992 Winter games at Albertville, France, summer games in Barcelona, 1994 Winter Games at Lille, Norway, the 1992 and European soccer championships and the finals of the 1996 European Cups.

The general assembly unanimously accepted all the contracts we concluded in the past few weeks and also provided cost

"Scharff said. "Nevertheless somebody came and offered eight times more. It was then that our members said, deliberately, well that's the end of the story."

"Wimbledon is a replaceable sport. There are so many tennis tournaments with the same players, the same quality. But it's different with the Olympic Games. You either have it or you don't."

The report submitted to the general assembly by the union's administrative council said that after the loss of Wimbledon, the EBU was able "to react rapidly and firmly with regard to the most important sporting events which were being covered by newcomers."

The report said Wimbledon "was a lost battle which shows how the audiovisual picture has changed in Europe... the EBU is no longer in the position it occupied before, where it represented all broadcasters in our region."

Scharff said that the special television sports channel operated by the EBU, known as Eurosports, "is working and is apparently very attractive in the eyes of the audience. It's very successful."

But he added that it faced legal and technical problems connected with European anti-monopoly legislation, "which I hope we will soon solve."

**GOREN BRIDGE**

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

## JUST A SPOT OR TWO AWAY

oth vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH  
♦ K 10 9 7 2  
♦ 9 5  
♦ Q 6 3  
♦ K 9 5 3

ST EAST  
8 6 5 ♠ A Q 3  
3 ♦ 10 8 7 4  
♦ K 5 2

AK Q 7 6 2 ♠ 10 8 4  
SOUTH  
♦ 4  
♦ A K Q 6 2  
♦ Q 10 9 7 4  
♦ J

bidding:  
1 North East South  
Pass 1 2 0  
3 0 3 NT 5 0  
1 K Q 7 6 2 ♠ 10 8 4  
South  
♦ 4  
♦ A K Q 6 2  
♦ Q 10 9 7 4  
♦ J

Pass

partner lead: King of ♣

trying to work out the play of a

when the spot cards are given in "x" can be an exhausting

cise. Quite often which spot a

er possessed can be critical,

as the case here.

ote North's enterprising raise to diamonds with an honor in

er's suit and a king and ruffe outside. As it happens, the

was unnecessary, but fine tech-

ique was able to land the doubled game.

West led the king of clubs and

continued with the queen. Since de-

clarer would have to lose a spade as

well, he would need to bring in the

trump suit without loss to make his

contract. East's three no trump

made it a near certainty that he held

the king of diamonds, so the finesse

was sure to succeed. However, the

only entry to dummy was a heart ruff, and the trump finesse would

probably have to be repeated.

When these cards were held by

the great French player, Dr.

George Theron, he found a deceptively simple way to land his contract. He ruffed the second club with the seven of trumped. After cashing two top hearts, he led a low heart. West made a good play by ruffing with the eight, forcing declarer to overruff with the queen. Now Theron's foresight at trick two won handsome dividends. He led the six of diamonds from the board and, when East followed with the two, declarer was able to underplay the four and remain in dummy! A repeat finesse enabled declarer to pick up the king and bring home his doubled game.

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Harris



"When you play golf the way I do, you come prepared for ANYTHING!"

**JUMBLE.**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MUHID

OUSLE

KOJECY

POATIE

Print answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

You don't look so good

How he felt when he finally reached the very top of the mountain.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble: GAUGE BELIE SCRIBE DAINTY

Answer: When the price of sugar escalated, the customers did this RAISED GAGE

**SPORTS IN BRIEF****DA SILVA WINS FIRST STAGE OF TOUR DE FRANCE**

— Acacio Da Silva of Portugal moved into the overall lead in the 76th Tour De France bicycle race Sunday by winning the 135-kilometre (84-mile) first stage through the Duchy of Luxembourg. A second stage, a team time trial, was scheduled for later Sunday. The competition, a 3,250-kilometre (2,020-mile) race that ends July 23 in Paris, opened Saturday with a prologue won by Eric Breukink of the Netherlands. Breukink, however, finished far back in the first leg Sunday and dropped out of the top 10 in the overall standings. His overall leader's yellow jersey went to Da Silva. Denmark's Soren Lilbott trailed Da Silva by 13 seconds in the overall standings and Roland Leclerc of France 1:54 back; Pedro Delgado, the defending champion from Spain, was still near the end of the standings after starting nearly three minutes behind. He arrived at the starting line late for the prologue Saturday and was placed last. In the first stage, Da Silva, Lilbott and Leclerc made an early breakaway that eventually built up to more than 11 minutes ahead of the pack at the 100-kilometre (62.5-mile) mark. The gap narrowed to four minutes at the end. But the race was decided in the last hill, as Da Silva moved away to an eight-second victory over Lilbott in 3 hours, 21 minutes, 36 seconds. Leclerc was third with Belgium's Etienne De Wilde and Ireland's Sean Kelly leading the pack 4:40 behind the leaders. (AP)

**SOUTH KOREA, IRAN DOMINATE THREE-DAY EVENT**

— Iran and South Korea dominated the 6th Asian Amateur Wrestling Championships, winning six titles each in bouts that ended Sunday in Ohara, Japan. South Korean wrestlers also captured five silver and four bronze medals and won the Greco-Roman style team title in the three-day championships at Ohara Undokan Gym, northeast of Tokyo. Iran won the freestyle team championship. Japan took four golds, four silvers and five bronzes, and Mongolia earned three golds, one silver and two bronzes. In the Greco-Roman 68-kilogramme (150-pound) division, Japan's Yasuhiro Okubo upset South Korea's Seoul Olympic silver medalist Kim Sung-Moon on cautions. Olympic bronze medalist Kim Sang-Kyu of South Korea took the 82-kilogramme title beating Jasim Brism of Iran. In the freestyle 57-kilogramme class, South Korean Noh Kwong-Sun, another Olympic bronze medalist, won on a decision against Asgari Mohammadian of Iran. There was competition in 10 weight classes in each free and Greco-Roman style wrestling, but in the Greco-Roman competition, there was no champion in the 48-kilogramme (105-pound) class. Masanori Ohashi of Japan and Kwon Duk-Yong of South Korea fought to a scoreless draw in the final and both were given silver medals. (AP)

**MARTIN WINS MARATHON BY A HEAD**

— Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania won the men's race in meet record time while Australian Lisa Martin edged Japan's Chieko Matsukawa for the women's title in the times Sapporo half-marathon Sunday in Japan. After running shoulder to shoulder with Japan's Kenji Ide, Ikangaa spurred with four kilometres (2.5 miles) left and crossed the finish line 35 seconds ahead of compatriot Simon Mrashani. Ikangaa covered 21.0975 kilometres (13.9 miles) in 1 hour, 2 minutes, 56 seconds, against Mrashani's 1:03:31. Japan's Taisuke Kodawa was third in 1:03:42, followed by Hirofumi Yoneda in 1:03:47. Ide finished fifth in 1:03:39. In the women's race, Martin, the marathon silver medalist in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, and two Japanese — Matsukawa and Sachiko Yamashita — entered the stadium together for the last 580 metres. Martin edged Matsukawa at the finish line. (AP)

**FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 4, 1989****YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE**

by Thomas Pieron, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:**

This Independence Day can be an exciting time with plenty of opportunity to learn and explore. Love interests strengthen. The home environment can hold surprises.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Continue with your current, positive attitude for success. News comes from a distance. There is plenty to discuss this evening.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Jealousy can exist over a partner's successful activities. Build trust and emphasize the kind side of a love relationship.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Your eyes are fixed on some fast cash. Take the leap, but avoid outright gambling. Stick to common sense financial procedures.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You make new starts this week if you can muster up the initiative. Even a bad choice turns out well. Try your luck with Cupid.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A misunderstanding hangs. Forget the past and put it behind you. Maybe more when a sacrifice is called for. You win in the end.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Fight off negative thinking. The future holds bright opportunity. Whatever you decide will be correct.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may not be giving yourself credit

where credit is due. Recognize your own wisdom and talents. Give siblings more time and attention.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Someone with a stubborn attitude will bend a little now. Pressures exist trying to meet a deadline. Give homelife greater attention.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Your domestic life receives a pleasant reorganization during the next few days. Intuition surrounding financial matters is strong.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) New business negotiations are favorable. You have lots of enthusiasm and motivation. Keep restless irritability in check.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)

You can have success when others fail. You gain from reading, correspondence, and verbal chit-chat.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)

It may be difficult to keep promises made today. You have more work than you can handle. There is success in all things.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)

Fight off negative thinking. The future holds bright opportunity.

Whatever you decide will be correct.

**WILDESTEIN fumes, but Sheriff's Star wins**

**PARIS** (R) — Top owner Daniel Wildenstein was highly critical of jockey Gary Moore's riding of Mill Pond after his horse Star Lift, hot favourite for the group one Grand Prix De Saint Cloud, had been beaten into fourth place behind English raider Sheriff's Star Sunday.

Wildenstein, who is seeking a record ninth singles title here, scored her 29th win in 36 meetings with Hana Mandlikova of Australia. The 14th seed, her superior serve-and-volley game seeing her through 6-3, 6-2.

French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez, 17, of Spain, beaten in the first round on her two previous Wimbledon visits, joined Navratilova in the last eight with a 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 win over American 15th seed Lori McNeil.

But elsewhere, particularly in the women's competition, seeds struggled to survive, and more often than not failed to do so.

Czechoslovak Sukova, a serve-

**WIMBLETON****Chang forced out; seeds struggle**

LONDON (R) — Seventeen-year-old Michael Chang, who became the youngest ever winner of a grand slam tournament when he triumphed in the French Open last month, fell in the fourth round at Wimbledon Monday, crushed by the powerful grass-court game of fellow-American Tim Mayotte.

Mayotte, the eighth seed, from Bradenton, Florida, won 6-3, 6-1, 6-3 to reach the Wimbledon quarter-finals for the sixth time since his first visit here in 1981. He will now play title-holder Stefan Edberg of Sweden, who beat 16th-seeded Amos Mansdorf 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

The grass courts of the All England Club are a favourite playground for Mayotte, suiting his heavy-hitting and volleying strength in the forecourt.

For all his resilience as a competitor, the ninth-seeded Chang, a backcourt player, was always likely to be vulnerable and so it proved as he salvaged only seven games in a one-sided contest.

In the women's singles, Martina Navratilova reached the quarter-finals here for the 15th year in a row but was the only surviving seed in the bottom half of the draw after Helene Sukova and Mary Joe Fernandez, the sixth and 12th seeds, both lost.

Navratilova, the second seed who is seeking a record ninth singles title here, scored her 29th win in 36 meetings with Hana Mandlikova of Australia. The 14th seed, her superior serve-and-volley game seeing her through 6-3, 6-2.

French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez, 17, of Spain, beaten in the first round on her two previous Wimbledon visits, joined Navratilova in the last eight with a 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 win over American 15th seed Lori McNeil.

She made this through 6-3, 6-2.

In terms of ability, there is little to choose between the two players but Navratilova's physical and mental strength make her a far more dangerous competitor and nearly all the close games, of which there were several, went her way.

Navratilova, ranked in the top four of women's tennis since 1975, remains one of the fittest and best-prepared players on the circuit, and against Mandlikova she made this through 6-3, 6-2.

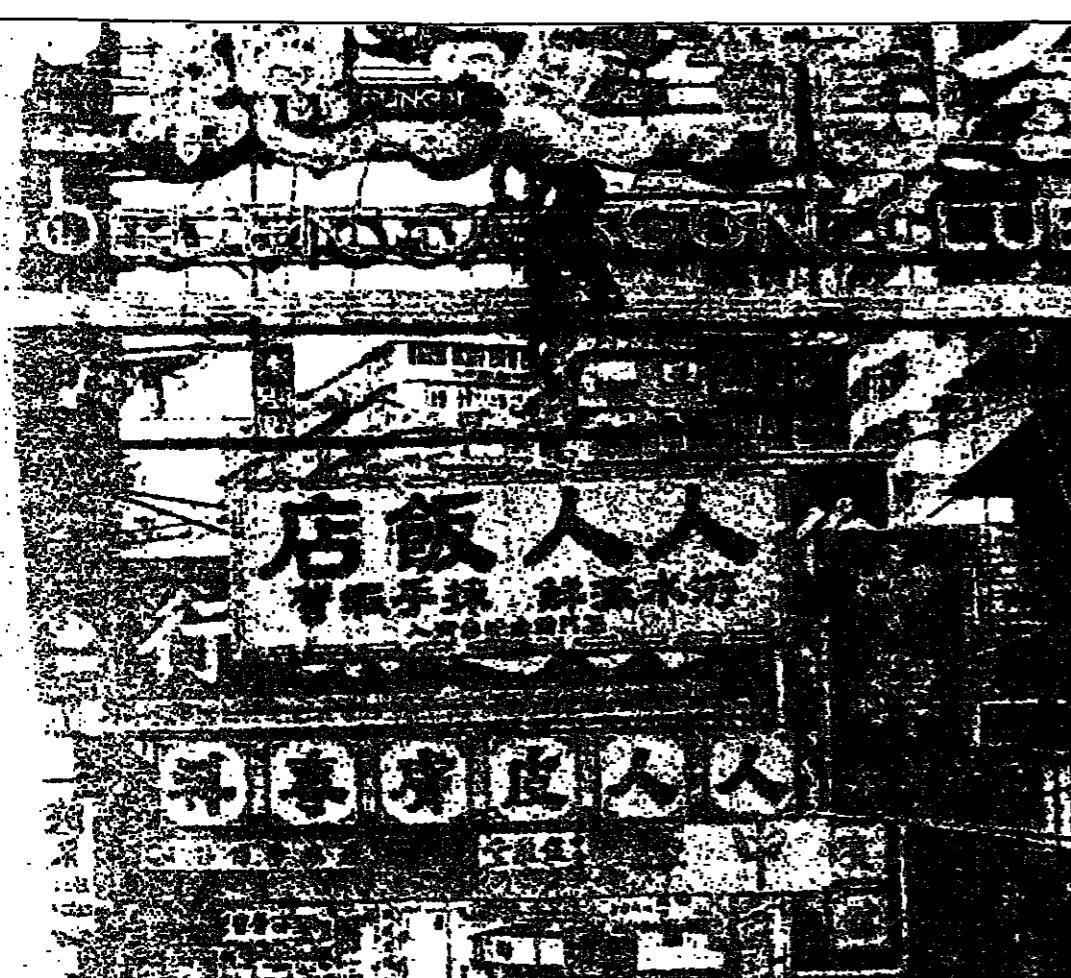
In the women's competition, seeds continued when Jane Novotna of Czechoslovakia disappeared from the top half of the women's draw, unseeded Italian Laura Golarski beating the 10th seed 7-6, 2-6, 6-4.

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Banning Hong Kong, whose citizens expected a message of hope from Sir Geoffrey Howe

## Howe rules out refuge for Hong Kong people

HONG KONG (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe Monday rejected appeals from Hong Kong residents that Britain offer them refuge from China when the colony is turned over to the communist nation in 1997.

Howe also denied that the decision was racial.

As Howe concluded the luncheon speech in which he outlined Britain's position, protesters unfurled a banner inside the hall that read, "Shame on the Thatcher government."

"This... speech is insulting the intelligence of Hong Kong Chinese. We protest and we walk out," shouted Lee Wing Tat, an elected local community leader who left the hall with about eight other demonstrators.

Such angry public outbursts are extremely rare in this British colony, and demonstrated the degree of bitterness many of Hong Kong's 5.7 million people feel over London's refusal to grant them the right to live in Britain.

Hong Kong residents have demanded the right since June 3-4

when China brutally suppressed the pro-democracy movement in Peking and launched a crackdown against dissent.

Although more than three million Hong Kong Chinese are eligible for British passports, they are not allowed to live in Britain. Howe made clear that the policy will not change fundamentally.

"The plain fact is that there is simply no way that the British government could grant to severa million people the right to come and live in Britain," Howe told about 250 community-leaders.

"It dismayed me that some have suggested that this is a matter of race. It is nothing of the sort," Howe said. "It is a practical problem on an enormous scale" that would test Britain's capacity in housing, employment and transportation, he said.

Howe indicated that some Hong Kong Chinese who have provided valuable service to the colony would be allowed to settle in Britain, but he provided no details.

He also said Britain would open its doors to Hong Kong residents and mobilise the international community to do the same "if things did go catastrophically wrong" in the territory.

Britain also is considering speeding up a local democratic reform programme and drafting a bill of rights for the colony to help safeguard the future of Hong Kong residents.

Howe expressed concern about a clause in the constitution for post-1997 Hong Kong, being drafted by China, that could allow Peking authorities to declare a state of emergency in the territory.

Howe is in Hong Kong on a three-day fact-finding mission to gauge opinion in the colony after the Chinese army gunned down unarmed pro-democracy demonstrators around Peking's Tiananmen Square.

While expressing disgust over the crackdown, Howe said the 1984 British-Chinese agreement that returns Hong Kong to China in 1997 remains valid.

## Indians launch offensive against Tamil rebels

COLOMBO (AP) — Indian peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka have launched a major sweep against Tamil rebels operation on the island's north and east, military officials said Monday.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said a dusk-to-dawn curfew had been imposed in many towns in the area since Saturday but added that other details were not immediately available.

A spokeswoman at the Indian high commission, or embassy, did not deny that the offensive was under way but said she did not have details.

Indian newspapers said the offensive, code-named "Operation Toofan," was launched 10 days ago and involved thousands of troops backed by helicopter gunships. Toofan means storm in the Hindi language.

Last week, President Ranasinghe Premadasa asked India to cease operations against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the main rebel militia. The Indian government refused, saying a decision could only be taken after the Tigers surrendered arms and refrained from violence.

Premadasa's appeal followed an agreement between his government and the Tigers to stop fighting each other. The two sides have been holding talks since May, their first direct contact since the rebels launched a war for an independent Tamil homeland in 1983.

India became involved in the Tamil war because of the sympathies of its own 60 million Tamils for the rebel cause. The peacekeeping soldiers were deployed in July 1987, initially to supervise an arms surrender by the rebels after a peace accord gave Tamils limited autonomy.

"Such a set-up would be an agreement under which the president will be a candidate of the PZPR (Communist Party) and the premier's portfolio and mission of forming a government would be given to a candidate of Solidarity," the newspaper said in a frontpage article.

The free trade union's official newspaper said Poland needed a new political arrangement that could be supported by all political forces while guaranteeing continuity.

"Such a (Solidarity) government would have a mandate from the huge majority of Poles and would guarantee a subsequent change of the economic and political system..."

"This would be an arrangement credible for Poland and the world," he added.

The presidential election was thrown open Friday when Communist leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski stepped aside and proposed Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak instead.

Jaruzelski said he could not overcome the stigma of having imposed martial law in 1981.

Political sources said he was unable to gather a majority in the 560-member National Assembly, comprising both houses of parliament, which elects the president.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa has said Jaruzelski is unacceptable to the nation. He threw his weight behind Kiszczak as a trustworthy partner who negotiated a political reform pact with Solidarnosc.

Michnik and Jacek Kuron, another senior Solidarity adviser

and parliamentary deputy, proposed the idea of a Solidarity government in exchange for a communist president at a meeting of the union's 260 legislators Saturday.

"Such a (Communist) president would guarantee continuity of the authorities and of international accords and military alliances," Michnik wrote.

"With the Communists and their allies divided, Solidarity's 260 legislators appear to have the decisive votes in the electoral assembly."

Michnik said the issue could not be reduced to a competition between the virtues of the two general.

"Poland needs now a strong and credible system of power. A change of appearances is not enough, like for example replacing one candidate for president by another ..."

"The question is not about people but about mechanisms. What we need is a new arrangement that can be approved by all the main political forces, new but guaranteeing continuity."

Solidarity has previously said it will not join the government as a junior partner to the communists and is not ready to form its own government.

However, political sources said it now appeared to be aiming for control of a "government of experts" — non-partisan technocrats who would hoist Poland out of deepening economic and political crisis.



Polish riot police clash with about 50 protesters who tried to march on the Communist Party's central committee building in Warsaw, calling for party leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski to resign.

## Solidarity proposes forming government

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity publicly proposed Monday that it should form a government in exchange for backing a Communist Party candidate at a meeting of the union's 260 legislators Saturday.

The free trade union's official newspaper said Poland needed a new political arrangement that could be supported by all political forces while guaranteeing continuity.

"Such a set-up would be an agreement under which the president will be a candidate of the PZPR (Communist Party) and the premier's portfolio and mission of forming a government would be given to a candidate of Solidarity," the newspaper said in a frontpage article.

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## COLUMN

Snakes kill lion, wolves at zoo

NEW DELHI (R) — Snakes have killed a lion and two wolves at a zoo in the north Indian city of Kanpur, the United News of India reported Monday. It said the animals had been found dead at snake bites in their enclosures at the zoo, set in 75 acres of woodland. Forest guards had saved a leopard by chasing away a snake preparing to attack. The agency did not identify the type of snakes responsible.

**Longer life in Vietnam**

BANGKOK (AP) — Want to live long? Then go live in Vietnam where 2,432 people are 100 or older and the oldest is a 142-year-old woman, according to the Vietnam News Agency. Chances of living long are much higher for women than men. Female centenarians outnumber males 1,728 to 704, the official agency said in a report monitored Monday in Bangkok. While the Guinness Book of world records lists the oldest documented person as having lived to 120, the central census guidance board says Vietnam's most senior citizen is Ngan Thi Quang, 142, a member of an ethnic Thai minority group living in the central part of the country. The oldest man, a full twelve years behind her at 130 was identified as Hoang A Giang, a member of the Hmong ethnic minority living in the northern province of Hoang Lien Son, the report said.

**Chickpeas can fight cholesterol!**

TEL AVIV (R) — Health officials in Tel Aviv have urged Israelis to eat more hummus, a chickpea paste popular in the Middle East, to decrease the risk of heart attack. A municipality statement said hummus and olive oil — usually eaten together — lowered the likelihood of heart attacks caused by foods high in cholesterol content. It said tests given to 2,000 residents showed one in four faced a high risk of heart attack because of cholesterol.

**Batman 'too busy'**

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Adam West, the batman of television fame years ago, says he has been too busy to see the new Batman movie and that he is content to leave the crime fighting to Michael Keaton's new version of the fictional character. "I guess if anyone should see it, I should," he said Tuesday while in town for a return of his 1966 Batman movie. "I've been too busy. But I'm very curious." West, speaking in the same measured tones Batman used while facing urban menaces, said he would have liked to star in the new movie. "But I would not have been well casted," he said. "They have a different vision. People would expect the same thing Batman was before — light-hearted." When the television show first left the air in 1968, West found himself hopelessly typecast.

**Lightning panic kills 1,600 chickens**

BELGRADE (R) — More than 1,600 panic-stricken chickens suffocated after a bolt of lightning caused a total electricity failure at a Yugoslav farm. Terrified by the flash in the sky and the sudden darkness, the farm's stock of 10,000 chickens tried to flee into one corner of their enclosure. More than 1,600 suffocated, causing the farm at cernice in the Slovenian republic losses of 90 million dinars (\$5,200), Tanjug news agency said Monday.

## Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.
AMSTERDAM	12	54
ATHENS	21	70
BAHRAIN	64	37
BANGKOK	27	81
Buenos Aires	55	10
CAIRO	51	80
CHICAGO	13	55
COPENHAGEN	10	50
DALAI	10	50
HONG KONG	28	62
ISTANBUL	12	56
LONDON	64	24
LOS ANGELES	17	63
MADRID	56	61
MEXICO	27	81
MONTEVIDEO	15	61
MONTREAL	18	61
MOSCOW	16	61
NEW DELHI	16	52
NEW YORK	17	63
PARIS	15	60
ROME	19	60
Sydney	11	52
TOKYO	13	58
VIENNA	16	61



Children attack a rickshaw puller resting on his vehicle in an empty Dhaka street during a strike, which was called by opposition parties to protest heavy taxes levied in the recently introduced fiscal 1989-90 Bangladeshi national budget.

## 'Tourism' prompted Cuban general to traffick drugs

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A former major general in the Cuban military testified at his court-martial that he trafficked drugs because he wanted to invest in tourism projects like hotels, the Cuban news agency said Sunday.

Arnoldo Ochoa Sanchez is one of 15 high-ranking military officers charged with high treason and trafficking in cocaine, diamonds and ivory.

They were stripped of their rank and expelled from the Communist Party last week. Three major generals began hearing the case Friday. The 15 could face the firing squad if convicted.

In a related development, Foreign Ministry spokesman Jorge Argiles said that Reuters correspondent Gilles Treuves was expelled Sunday for "falsely and maliciously" reporting that two Communist Party officials wanted asylum in a foreign embassy.

Argiles was quoted by the Cuban government news agency Prensa Latina as saying that Treuves filed the offending article Saturday and was expelled at 8 a.m. (1200 GMT) Sunday. He said Treuves is the third Reuters correspondent expelled, but gave no details.

"It is Cuba's policy to take such measures against correspondents accredited in the country when they falsify the truth with evident malicious intention," Argiles said.

Prensa Latina said Treuves reported that Osman Cienfuegos, a member of the Council of State and of the ruling Communist Party's Political Bureau, and Abraham Maciques, president of the state trading corporation Cubanacan, had asked for asylum at an unnamed foreign embassy.

Argiles said Treuves "falsely and maliciously" linked "the alleged search for asylum" with the drug case.

According to Prensa Latina, Ochoa and two aides, Jorge Martinez and Antonio Rodriguez, admitted their actions "seriously endangered the prestige, morality and dignity of Cuba, its armed forces, people and government."

Earlier dispatches from Havana said the defendants belonged to a secret division of the Interior Ministry that smuggled medicine, hospital supplies and computers to circumvent a U.S. trade embargo. One of the defendants is former Interior Minister Jose Armando.

Ochoa said Sunday that he was "thinking big" when he decided to become involved in international drug trafficking in 1987, Prensa Latina said.

He said he planned to invest large amounts of money in hotel construction but did not intend to turn the island into a drug trafficking centre.

July 4, 1989